found to be circumcised. He is suspected to be a Sikh extremist.

Killing of Persons of T.N.V. Volunteers in Tripura

3208. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at least 14 persons including 5 women and two children were killed by a gang of tribal *national volunteers in Tripura* near Srirampur village on August 30, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what specific steps have been taken to prevent such incidents in Tripura; and

(d) the number and details of such incidents in Tripura during the year 1986 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) On 29th August, 1986 an armed group of tribal extremists belonging to TNV raided the houses of some non-tribals as also a grocery shop owned by another non-tribal at Sriramur village, near Manik Bhandar under PS Kamalpur (North Tripura), around 20.00 hours. The TNV extremists opened fire indiscriminately on the inmates of the houses/shop resulting in the death of 8 persons on the spot. Six more persons succumbed to their injuries in the Kamalpur hospital. The deceased include 7 men, 5 women and 2 children. Besides, 5 more persons, who sustained serious injuries, were removed to the G.B. Hospital at Agartala. This incident took place on 29th August and not 30th August as mentioned in the question.

(c) The State Government of Tripura have been requested to take suitable measures to effectively deal with the activities of extremists in Tripura. Para-military forces have been placed at the disposal of the State Government for the purpose.

(d) According to the State Government there were 20 incidents with 65 deaths upto 15-11-1986 during 1986.

3209. [*Transferred to the 2nd December*, 1986].

Indo-Polish Cooperation on Ganga Project

3210. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in Indian Express dated the 10th November, 1986 captioned 'Poland keen to co-operate with ganga Project';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some industrial enterprises from Poland have applied for enlistment as contractors for the supply and installation of equipments for schemes under Ganga Action Plan.

(c) The established procedure will apply for evaluation of these offers.

Theft of Sodium Mercury Lamps at National Cultural Festival

3211. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 100 sodium-mercury lamps along with fittings were stolen from the high security site of the National Cultural Festival at the Red Fort grounds on 6th November, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details in regard thereto;

(c) whether any enquiry has been made and responsibility fixed in security lapses involved in the matter; and

(d) whether any culprits have been apprehended and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHR P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking authorities got a case registered at Police Station Kotwali on 14th November, 1986 that some fittings were found missing from the moat at the Red Fort.

One Mohd. Babul of Jama Masjid Area was arrested and 11 electric fittings were recovered.

Deforestation caused by Viscose fibre production

3212. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of trees cut/ tonnes of forest wood required for each tonne of viscose fibre produced during the last Five Years Plan period and in each of the last three years and also the number of replacement-trees grown in the same periods;

(b) whether the forests are depleting due to viscose fibre production requirements; if so, the steps being taken to stop in time, the depletion of forests specially while permitting expansion of production capacity or giving new licenses for production; and

(c) whether it would be made compulsory for all such, expansions or new licence giving programmes which use forest produces in their production to obtain prior clearance forma Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) About 3.85 tonnes of wood is required to manufacture one tonne of viscose fibre. Statistics relating to the number of trees cut only for viscose production and the number of replacement trees grown are not maintained.

(b) and (c) Depletion of forest is caused by various biotic pressures. Clearance of the Central Government is necesary for substantial expansion or a new unit and availability of raw material is always taken into account while such an approval is given.

Request by the Punjab Government leniency towards army deserters

3213. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of army deserters being prosecuted for thier involvement in incidents of revolt in the army during the Operation Blue Star in Punjab;

(b) whether Punjab Government has demanded amensty for those army deserters;

(c) if so, on what grounds and Government's reaction in this regard; and